Dear Alumni, Faculty and Staff,

As I reflect on the many accomplishments of our faculty, staff and students during the first three years of my service as dean, I'm pleased to be helping the School of Health and Environment continue to be a positive influence in the region, state and nation.

The university continues to grow and expand. One significant example for SHE is the continued progress on the Health and Social Sciences building. The brick siding is going on right now and we look forward to moving in in early 2013.

Two former deans are featured in this issue of the newsletter. Prof. Kay Doyle retired at the end of May. We celebrated her career and instituted a scholarship in her name. If you'd like to help this fund reach the level for endowment, please contribute online.

Former Dean Wegman continues to share his expertise for helping others. His latest accomplishment is to contribute to the safety of coal miners. This is of special importance to me because as a West Virginia native, I grew up seeing the impact of coal mining on my local community, particularly when mine disasters would happen. The Upper Big Branch mine is close to my hometown and the explosion was devastating to the local community. It is extremely gratifying to me personally that UMass Lowell, because of David's expertise, is making a such a positive impact on the future safety of miners.

This issue provides some highlights of this year's commencement activities. It's amazing how quickly we are growing and contributing to student success.
Environmental Protection Agency Recognizes Faculty and Staff

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) recently presented merit awards to Prof. Ken Geiser of Work Environment and The New England Consortium for protecting the public, workers and the environment from toxic chemicals and hazardous waste.

Geiser, one of the authors of the Toxics Use Reduction Act in Massachusetts, received the Lifetime Achievement Award during a Faneuil Hall ceremony for dedicating his life to the betterment of the environment worldwide.

Though he was honored to receive the award, Geiser was quick to recognize others.

"My work has always been supported by many talented and dedicated colleagues, many of whom are at the University," says Geiser, who directed the Toxics Use Reduction Institute at UMass Lowell for more than a decade and has contributed to chemicals policy and green chemistry research and implementation around the world. "At UMass Lowell, we have played a significant role in changing public and private chemicals policy, locally, nationally and internationally. That is what I am most proud of." Read the rest of the story.

Students Design PT Clinic for Disabled Orphans

For student Randy Jean, designing a physical therapy (PT) clinic for disabled children in impoverished countries had special meaning.

"With family living in Haiti, I am familiar with the hardships of a third-world country," says Jean. "I was excited to work on this project to take what I’ve learned these last three years and truly make a difference in people's lives."

The student team of Jean, Ryan Burke and Thomas Sniezek - all of whom graduated with their doctor of physical therapy degrees in May - worked with the
Pioneer, Scientist, Teacher - Kay Doyle Retires

Prof. Kay Doyle's passion for the success of her students has never wavered, even after 32 years of teaching. And now, true to form, she has turned her retirement celebration into an opportunity to support students by giving the gift of education.

Doyle's celebration on May 9 attracted more than 130 colleagues, friends and family members who recognized Doyle's legacy as a pioneer, scientist and teacher. The event raised $20,000 for the new Kay Doyle Endowed Scholarship Fund. The goal is to raise $25,000. (If you would like to contribute online, visit our website and designate your gift to the "Prof. Kay Doyle Endowed Scholarship Fund.")

"You are a pioneer in your field," said Executive Vice Chancellor Jacqueline Moloney, in remarks at the event. "This scholarship is a testament to all that you've accomplished - you are a role model for students and for all of us. You work tirelessly in the local community helping others and on the national level creating high standards for the profession of medical laboratory scientists." Read the rest of the story.

Safeguarding Coal Miners

It was the deadliest U.S. coal mining disaster in 40 years - an explosion 1,000 feet underground in a West Virginia mine that killed 29 coal miners.

An investigation found that Massey Energy, the company that owned the mine at the time of the Upper Big Branch mine explosion in 2010, failed to control accumulations of explosive methane gas and coal dust. A $209 million settlement reached between the federal government and the new owner of the mine, Alpha Natural Resources, included the establishment of a $48 million foundation that will investigate life-saving advances for coal miners.

Prof. Emeritus David Wegman of Work Environment is one of three experts selected to lead the Alpha Foundation for the Improvement of Mine Safety and Health. He will serve on the board of directors with Keith A. Heasley, professor in the College of Engineering and Mineral Resources at West Virginia University and Michael E. Karmis, professor and director of the Virginia Center for Coal and Energy Research at Virginia Tech.

Universities and non-profits will be eligible for the research funding from the foundation, an
Successful Site Evaluation at D'Youville

Massachusetts Department of Higher Education recently visited D'Youville Life and Wellness Community in Lowell for a site evaluation for a $50,000 grant it awarded to UMass Lowell. The Coordinator for Healthcare Workforce Development Dale Earl was pleased with the level of real-world teaching happening at the facility.

She commented: "After seeing your partner site and hearing about the program, I wish that all nursing students could have such a valuable one-on-one clinical experience. It feels like the difference between exposure to various clinical settings and truly learning to be a nurse from these experiences. And of course, we are hoping to see more nurses choose gerontology as the right fit for themselves. Thank you for all your fine work."

Nursing faculty developed the "Transitional Care Dedicated Education Unit" with D'Youville staff. The unique model allows students to do rotations, with long-term care nurses serving as clinical teachers under UMass Lowell faculty direction, that incorporate the best practices of treating physical and mental health problems in older adults. Read more.

News Briefs: Students and Alums

Exercise physiology major Ramez Antoun met his mentor Walter Norton, former Celtics strength and conditioning coach, during an internship at the Institute of Performance and Fitness. Read more.

Bill Lovely is back at UMass Lowell for round two, pursuing a master's degree in work environment. His goal is to learn about the emerging fields of sustainable materials management and green chemistry to avoid or minimize the use of hazardous materials. Read more.

Community health recent graduate Andrea Evans transferred to UMass Lowell two years ago. She snagged an internship at the U.S. Department of Human Services and developed programs to improve women's health. Read more.

Matt MacDonald loves his job as a labor and delivery nurse at Melrose-Wakefield Hospital. The R.N. to B.S. program gave him the flexibility he needed as well as the real-world experience in one of the busiest labor units in the country at Brigham and Women's in Boston. Read more.

Alice Bonner '89, director of the Division of Nursing Homes, Office for Clinical Standards and Quality, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, was recognized with the 2012 University Alumni Award for demonstrating exceptional leadership and commitment in her field. The honors paid tribute to one graduate from each of the university's seven schools and colleges. Read more about the event and honorees.

To our alumni, please send your news to Karen Angelo to be included in our next issue.
Congratulations to the Class of 2012

U.S. Secretary of the Interior Ken Salazar addressed graduates at UMass Lowell's 2012 Commencement in May. For the fifth year in a row, a record number of graduates - 2,900 - were awarded diplomas.

The School of Health & Environment graduated 334 bachelor's, master's and doctoral students in May, a nearly 20 percent growth from last year:

<table>
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<th>Degree</th>
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GRAND TOTAL 334

Congratulations to the entire SHE class of 2012 and to the following students:

- **Exercise Physiology major Hollie Ann Letendre** received the Chancellor's Medal for Distinguished Academic Achievement for attaining the highest cumulative average for baccalaureate study.
- **Community Health major Amy Delgado** received the Chancellor's Medal for Student Service for making outstanding contributions to the University.
- **Health Informatics and Management major Brendan Riley** received the University Medal for Community Service for making significant contributions to the public good.
- **Environment Health major Maryann Ford** was honored with the distinction of the Commonwealth Honors Program Scholars for maintaining a cumulative grade point average of at least 3.25 and writing and presenting an honors thesis.

The following students received the SHE Dean's Award:

- **Thomas Brogan**, undergraduate; **Jun Jin**, graduate - Clinical Laboratory & Nutritional Sciences
Make a Donation

UMass Lowell set an ambitious goal of inspiring 7,500 alumni to participate in University life by making an annual gift. I encourage you, our alumni, to make a gift to help us reach this important milestone. Not only does it provide needed financial assistance for students, but it also helps UMass Lowell obtain a higher position in the US News & World Report rankings (alumni participation is one of the factors they consider). Higher rankings enhance the reputation of a UMass Lowell degree, a benefit to both alumni and students when seeking career and other opportunities. Please support the UMass Lowell Fund in the School of Health and Environment this year by visiting www.uml.edu/givenow.